

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1.-16. (cancelled)

17. (original) A blow molding machine for producing a heat set container, said machine comprising:

a blow mold defining a mold cavity capable of receiving a preform;

a high-pressure fluid source;

a high-temperature fluid source;

a blow core assembly engagable with the preform and coupled to said high-pressure source and to said high-temperature source to supply high-pressure fluid and high-temperature fluid to an interior portion of the preform, said blow core assembly having an exhaust to exhaust fluid from the interior portion of the preform; and

a controller coupled to said high-pressure fluid source and to said high-temperature fluid source to selectively control the supply of high-pressure fluid and high-temperature fluid, said controller further coupled to said exhaust to selectively control the fluid exhaust.

18. (original) The blow molding machine of Claim 17 wherein said blow core assembly further includes a stretch rod which is movable from a retracted position to an extended position to axially stretch the preform.

19. (original) The blow molding machine of Claim 18 wherein said stretch rod includes an interior channel coupled to said exhaust.

20. (original) The blow molding machine of Claim 18 wherein said stretch rod includes an interior channel coupled to at least one of said high-temperature fluid source and said high-pressure fluid source, said stretch rod further including at least one port to supply fluid to the interior portion of the preform.

21. (original) The blow molding machine of Claim 20 wherein said port is oriented to supply fluid in a direction substantially perpendicular to an interior surface of the preform.

22. (original) The blow molding machine of Claim 17 wherein said high-pressure fluid source supplies high-pressure fluid at a pressure in the range of 100psi to 600psi.

23. (original) The blow molding machine of Claim 17 wherein said high-temperature fluid source supplies high-temperature fluid at a temperature in the range of 200°C to 400°C.

24. (original) The blow molding machine of Claim 17 further comprising a pre-blow fluid source to supply a pre-blow fluid, said blow core assembly being coupled to said pre-blow fluid source to supply the pre-blow fluid to the interior portion of the preform.

25. (new) A blow molding machine for producing a heat set container, said machine comprising:

a blow mold defining a mold cavity capable of receiving a preform;

a high-pressure fluid source;

a high-temperature fluid source;

a blow core assembly engagable with the preform and coupled to said high-pressure source and to said high-temperature source to supply high-pressure fluid and high-temperature fluid to an interior portion of the preform, said blow core assembly having an exhaust to exhaust fluid from the interior portion of the preform and a stretch rod which is movable from a retracted position to an extended position to axially stretch the preform; and

a controller coupled to said high-pressure fluid source and to said high-temperature fluid source to selectively control the supply of high-pressure fluid and high-temperature fluid, said controller further coupled to said exhaust to selectively control the fluid exhaust.

26. (new) The blow molding machine of Claim 25 wherein said stretch rod includes an interior channel coupled to said exhaust.

27. (new) The blow molding machine of Claim 25 wherein said stretch rod includes an interior channel coupled to at least one of said high-temperature fluid source and said high-pressure fluid source, said stretch rod further including at least one port to supply fluid to the interior portion of the preform.

28. (new) The blow molding machine of Claim 27 wherein said port is oriented to supply fluid in a direction substantially perpendicular to an interior surface of the preform.

29. (new) The blow molding machine of Claim 25 wherein said high-pressure fluid source supplies high-pressure fluid at a pressure in the range of 100psi to 600psi.

30. (new) The blow molding machine of Claim 25 wherein said high-temperature fluid source supplies high-temperature fluid at a temperature in the range of 200°C to 400°C.

31. (new) The blow molding machine of Claim 25 further comprising a pre-blow fluid source to supply a pre-blow fluid, said blow core assembly being coupled to said pre-blow fluid source to supply the pre-blow fluid to the interior portion of the preform.